Message from
the Program Committee Chairs

Welcome to the proceedings from Agile 2005, the conference that merged the Agile Development conference and XP Agile Universe under our tagline for 2005—Agile United. It was held in Denver in July 2005.

Agile Software Development is an area where there is plenty to teach, exchange, and research. Through the merger, we extended the vision of each conference to:

- Create an open community for exploration of all agile methods
- Share experiences and research across disciplines
- Welcome new members to the world of Agile Development
- Consolidate data about Agile Development to aid research and implementation

The merger of XP Agile Universe with the Agile Development Conference resulted in a record number of submissions and a very strong program. These proceedings record the results of the research papers, experience reports, and the Educators’ Symposium presented at the conference. Each of these has its own focus.

- Research papers capture the output of research on a range of agile development, human, and technical issues. Using the standard IEEE peer-review process, ten research papers were selected out of a total of 25 submissions. These papers were grouped into three broad categories: metaphors and quality, social and cultural issues, and release/iteration planning.
- Experience reports capture data from the field, to provide not only ideas for other practitioners but also raw project data for researchers. There were 26 experience reports presented at the conference, selected out of a total of 89 submissions. Reports cover a wide range of topics including: effective teamwork and project management practices; agility and user interaction, API, and database design; agile testing and QA experiences; agility with offshore and distributed teams; agility and CMMI; and injecting agile practices into traditionally inflexible organizations. Each experience report went through a revision process in which a shepherd or coach assisted the author in bringing out the pertinent details of the situation.
- The Educators’ Symposium provides a collaborative venue for educators to share experiences teaching with agile methods and to explore new ideas and techniques. It was designed for university educators and industry training experts who are already using agile methods or planning on doing so. This year, the Educators’ Symposium spanned two days of activities, including a keynote, six paper presentations, a panel discussion, a tutorial, and an open space session on industry-academia cooperation in experimentation.

Many of the outputs from the other tracks—tutorials, peer-to-peer workshops, and Open Space sessions—can be found at the conference website: www.agile2005.org.

We would like to once again thank the conference track chairs, the paper selection committees, the shepherds, the organizers, and the sponsors for helping put together an excellent conference. We also want to thank the attendees for making it a spectacular memory.

Mary Lynn Manns and William C. Wake
Agile 2005 Program Committee Chairs